

THREE STRIKES (CONT.)

The troopers heard glass clanking, water being run and the toilet being flushed. Finally the occupants reluctantly opened the door and gave the troopers permission to enter. The troopers discovered methamphetamine cooking components, including anhydrous ammonia. They immediately called SWET and the Michigan State Police Meth Response Team.

The responding officers had no trouble finding the location; it was the third time in three months that the suspect had been arrested for cooking meth.

DETROIT CRIMINALS IMPORT HEROIN AND COCAINE INTO VAN BUREN COUNTY/COVERT TOWNSHIP

Two Detroit men, both age 26, were arrested and four additional suspects face arrest warrants for trying to re-establish heroin and cocaine sales in Van Buren County. The suspects were arrested and lodged in jail after authorities found 61 rocks of crack cocaine and packages of heroin at a 76th Street house in Covert Township.

"This is the first recent instance of heroin being seized in Van Buren County in the past few years," stated Detective/Lieutenant Mike Brown, Southwest Enforcement Team (SWET). Our investigation revealed the suspects were dealing in both heroin and crack cocaine. Four suspects also found at the house face charges of possession of marijuana and frequenting a drug house."

The investigation was the result of efforts by SWET, Covert Township Police Department and the Van Buren County Prosecutor's Office.

90 out of 100

After smoking or injecting
Meth – just 2 times –
90 out of 100 people
will become hooked

COMMANDER'S COLUMN

D/F/Lt. Bill Ford Michigan State Police



**SOUTHWEST
ENFORCEMENT TEAM**

We are all aware that there is a direct correlation between drugs and crime in our community. We also know that criminals do more than destroy lives, they also steal our sense of safety, well being and freedom.

Armed with this knowledge, community leaders and law enforcement agencies in Barry, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph and Van Buren counties partnered with the Michigan State Police to establish the Southwest Enforcement Team (SWET). SWET is a multijurisdictional team with one common goal in mind, "removing drug dealers from our community's streets and neighborhoods so you can live your life with a sense of peace and tranquility."

The concept of SWET is based on the simple premise that no one agency has the ability or resources to respond single handedly to the drug problems in our area. Therefore, we had to look at combining our talent and resources into a strong specialized drug enforcement team, aimed specifically at removing drug criminals from our streets.

SWET's Goal: Removing drug dealers from streets and neighborhoods, restoring a sense of peace and tranquility in our community.

As commander of SWET, I am convinced that by combining the talent, resources and technology of our local agencies with those of state and federal agencies, we are more successful in our drug fighting efforts. As you can see by the 2003 numbers, we made 483 arrests and took 245 drug criminals off our streets. In addition, we stopped the dissemination of more than three million dollars worth of drugs directed toward the children, family and friends in our communities.

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As a citizen of Barry, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph or Van Buren County, you stand to benefit greatly by the collective efforts of SWET. Whether using local street enforcement efforts,

interdiction, education/prevention, or taking full advantage of the highly specialized crime fighting tools offered by state and federal agencies, SWET officers are committed to making a difference in your community.

While cocaine and marijuana still seem to be the drugs of choice currently found in southwest Michigan communities, now on the scene, and positioned to spread like a brush fire, is METHAMPHETAMINE.

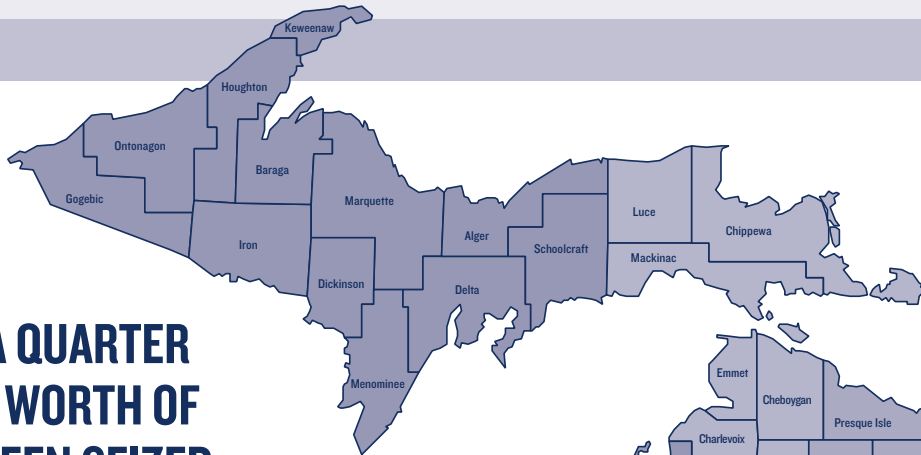
Many neighboring counties, especially Allegan County, have seen an alarming increase in methamphetamine clandestine labs (cooking sites), and the state is seeing an increase in meth reported cases as well.

Methamphetamine is like no other drug we have seen before in southwest Michigan, especially due in part to the fact that it is manufactured (cooked) right here in our

community and not imported as is the case with other illegal drugs. As you read about methamphetamine in this newsletter, you will see how deadly and dangerous this drug really is. I encourage you to become aware of the dangers associated with methamphetamine, to report any suspicious activities and to help SWET officers in their efforts to keep this devastating drug from taking over our community.

TO REPORT DRUGS AND DRUG DEALERS CALL (269) 962-1225
ALL CALLS REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL

LOCAL MULTIJURISDICTIONAL DRUG TEAMS HAVING IMPACT ON MICHIGAN DRUG EFFORTS

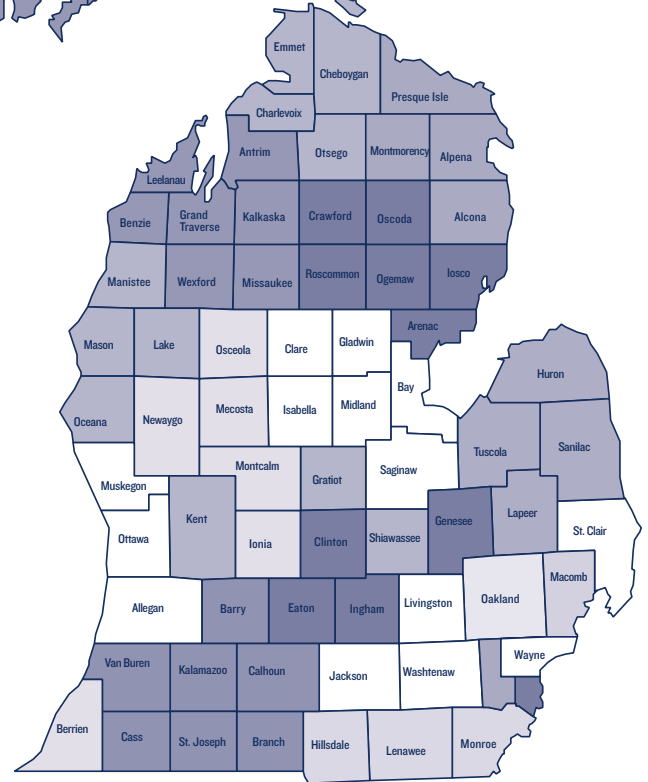


SINCE 2000, ALMOST A QUARTER OF A BILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF STREET DRUGS HAVE BEEN SEIZED IN MICHIGAN BY DRUG TEAMS

In the Spring of 1977, the Michigan State Police joined with local and county law enforcement agencies to begin a new concept in fighting drugs and drug related crimes in local communities. The concept was simple - no one agency had all the manpower or resources to adequately deal with the increase in drugs and drug related crimes finding its way into Michigan communities and neighborhoods. By combining local resources with the resources of the Michigan State Police, Criminal Investigation Division, along with state police and federal drug information identification and tracking systems, Michigan took a major step in bringing the fight against drug dealers and drug related crimes to the local level. And, it has worked!

Currently, multijurisdictional teams service 81 of 83 counties in the State of Michigan. Local officers from approximately 550 city and township law enforcement agencies, county deputies from 81 counties and troopers from the Michigan State Police are assigned to these task forces. The teams are funded in part through the Michigan Department of Community Health, Office of Drug Control Policy, Michigan State Police, and local governing bodies.

Just in the past four years, the multijurisdictional task forces have been responsible for arresting and removing approximately 14,450 drug criminals from our neighborhoods, streets and schools. In four years, the local task forces have also removed more than \$274,478,398 in street-drugs from local communities-drugs intended for our children and loved ones. As a result of the dedicated efforts of the multijurisdictional teams, tens of millions of dollars in assets and property that would have been used to continue drug trafficking in our communities - has been seized and removed from drug dealers.



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B.A.Y.A.N.E.T.	Bay Area Narcotics Enforcement Team	989/790-6581
C.M.E.T.	Central Michigan Enforcement Team	989/352-6738
F.A.N.G.	Flint Area Narcotics Group	810/233-3689
H.U.N.T.	Huron Undercover Narcotics Team	989/356-3395
J.N.E.T.	Jackson Narcotics Enforcement Team	517/784-2990
M.A.G.N.E.T.	Mid-Michigan Area Narcotics Enforcement Team	989/725-7254
M.E.T.	Metropolitan Enforcement Team	616/456-4801
S.A.N.E.	Straits Area Narcotics Enforcement	231/238-8692
S.S.C.E.N.T.	State, Sheriffs, Chiefs Enforcement Team	231/843-7045
S.T.I.N.G.	Strike Team Investigative Narcotics Group	989/345-2304
S.W.E.T.	South-West Enforcement Team	269/962-1225
T.N.T.	Traverse Narcotics Team	231/922-0993
T.N.U.	Thumb Narcotics Unit	989/673-8600
T.C.M.	Tri-County Metro Narcotics Squad	517/394-5588
U.P.S.E.T.	Upper Peninsula Substance Enforcement Team	906/346-9289
W.E.M.E.T.	West Michigan Enforcement Team	616/994-6520
C.O.M.E.T.	County of Macomb Enforcement Team	586/790-3990
W.W.N.	Western Wayne Narcotics	734/397-9811
D.R.A.N.O.	Down River Area Narcotics Organization	734/479-1710
L.A.W.N.E.T.	Livingston and Washtenaw Narcotics Enforcement Team	810/227-7897
O.M.N.I.	Office of Monroe Narcotics Investigations	734/848-3445

TAKING DRUGS & DRUG CRIMINALS

off our streets

		Barry
Van Buren	Kalamazoo	Calhoun
Cass	St. Joseph	Branch

NOT SO DOGGONE FUNNY

SWET undercover officers were recently tipped off to a possible marijuana grow operation after a citizen responded to a sign advertising Rotwieller pups for sale. He went to the address to look at the puppies and also found lots of marijuana lying around. The man immediately called the SWET office.

SWET officers went to the house under the pretense of buying a dog. They explained to the owner that they were short of money, however the owner had a purchase plan in mind! The owner offered to sell the undercover officers a puppy and suggested that all the officers needed to do to was to sell some marijuana to get their money.

Of course, the owner had some marijuana to sell and he was even willing to give them a discount not only on the marijuana but the dog as well!

While weighing up the marijuana, the SWET team entered the home and made their arrest. The man's last statement to the undercover officers, "He would be damned if they were getting the dog at discount!"

THREE STRIKES AND YOU'RE OUT?

Acting on a complaint by a neighbor complaining of an odor of burning garbage, troopers from the State Police Battle Creek Post were dispatched to a house near Battle Creek. As the troopers approached the house they witnessed the subjects running around covering the windows so the troopers couldn't see inside.

continued inside...

FEDS, CITY P.D., AND DRUG TEAM INVESTIGATION NETS LARGEST DRUG SEIZURE IN COUNTY

Working in a cooperative effort during a three-year investigation, officers from the DEA, Battle Creek Police Department, and the Southwest Enforcement Team (SWET) arrested a major cocaine trafficker doing business in Calhoun County. The suspect, originally from Texas, was arrested in a local hotel parking lot in Battle Creek with more than 50 kilograms of cocaine in his rental car. Surveillance officers watched as a drug courier from Texas delivered the drugs to the suspect. Authorities estimated the wholesale value of the cocaine at \$20,000 per kilogram, or more than \$1,000,000.

"Our estimate of one million dollars is very conservative, considering that once diluted by cutting, the street value of this cocaine would have increased dramatically," states SWET Commander, Detective/First Lieutenant William Ford.



"What began as an anonymous tip from a county resident has resulted in the largest drug seizure to date and the removal of a major drug trafficker from Calhoun County."

The suspect was arraigned in Federal Court in Grand Rapids under federal drug charges.

SUMMARY 2003

TOTAL CASES

372

TOTAL ARREST COUNTS

483

NUMBER OF PERSONS ARRESTED

245

DRUG SEIZED / PURCHASED

\$3,646,994

(STREET VALUE)



**SOUTHWEST
ENFORCEMENT TEAM**

REPORT DRUG ACTIVITY (269) 962-1225